



BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

June 5, 2014

The Honorable Bob Casey
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Marco Rubio
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey and Senator Rubio,

The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) strongly supports your efforts to support international freedom of the press through S.Res.447, which recognizes the threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirms freedom of the press as a priority in the efforts of the United States government to promote democracy and good governance. Your work on this resolution demonstrates that bipartisan collaboration remains alive and well in the development of foreign policy.

BPC's Foreign Policy Project is committed to developing realistic and robust bipartisan policy recommendations for the principal national security and foreign policy challenges confronting the United States. Our most recent work has focused on the evolution of U.S.-Turkey policy.

Among other things, your resolution highlights the alarming number of journalists imprisoned in Turkey. BPC called attention to concerns about press freedom in Turkey in its October 2013 report, *From Rhetoric to Reality: Reframing U.S. Turkey Policy*, authored by former Ambassadors to Turkey Morton Abramowitz and Eric Edelman. Like you, BPC believes that an active and free media presence in countries around the world is essential to supporting democracy, reducing corruption, and promoting good governance.

BPC applauds your bipartisan efforts draw attention to the importance of press freedom worldwide and looks forward to continuing to work with you on foreign policy issues.

Sincerely,

Blaise Misztal
Director, Foreign Policy Project
Bipartisan Policy Center